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2-24-1884

Letter written by William to Fannie Flinn

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so much of the
work myself that it seems
more a part of me -
than I thought possible - I
take so much pleasure in
"fixin up" ^{now that it is} for myself - that
I did not have when renting.
Arthur has not recovered -
he is better for a few days
then is down for a day
or two - he is taking med-
icine now that seems to
be helping him - & I hope
will entirely cure him -
when in Ill. he did not
feel like visiting anywhere
It required considerable coax-
ing - to have him go to
Chicago. What terrible floods
they are having in Ohio &
Ill. - We can hardly realize

Please excuse my many
mistakes - I find there
several or
more.
Aunt Laura is
gaining - and
hopes soon to
be able to attend
church - she
sent love to
Aunt Alice &
family -
Princeton. N. J. - 2/24/84.
My dear Fannie
This is a lovely
spring like day - reminding one
very much of spring - & its
rush of work - - we enjoyed
the ride home from church -
in places the roads are quite
dusty - a day or two of such
drying weather - & we can start
the plough - I bought a grey
horse last week to work with
Dolly & Jyp on the breakers - we
have not named him yet -
but think of calling him "Baalbeck"
as "Mark Twain did his" - because
he was "such a magnificent."

The past two weeks
have been alive with surprise
parties - I only attended on
the girls went to three -
One was a leopysar party -
the "fair ones" were splendid
escorts - + took the gentlemen
out in style. Wednesday eve
Prof Ford a "fine" Olocution
ist from Bloomington Ill -
gives an entertainment - in
Oreociton. We think of lis-
tning to him - Tuesday eve
our singing school commences -
We have seven more lessons
and will close with a
"grand Concert" Can I have
the pleasure of your company
on that evening.

Yours commenced Feb 10th
+ mailed the 16th came in

due time + was read
with pleasure. You are
correct - if "one fair
dame" had asked me to
take a sleigh ride, I should
have said yes as quickly as
the rules of etiquette would
allow. We had the same mess
of ice - that you did - I guess
if every thing was lovely. The
sleighing was good during
the time. I went to town once
in the sleigh - + one evening five
couples of us had an enjoy-
able ride. I recd. the paper
you sent - with Susan
Duffey's Marriage - and
thought I acknowledged it.
We enjoy our new home
very much - It is warm
+ comfortable. I did

the amount of suffering - + destitution - as we could were we similarly situated - still we know it is bad enough - and can sympathize clear down into our pockets - what terrible disasters we read of - of all kinds - what devastation followed in the wake of that Cyclone in Georgia - recently - The conviction is forced upon one that they are ^{nowhere} safe - I know you would understand my feeling in regard to my health - I am not one bit "afraid" to write you - I have perfect confidence - I wish you would tell me of yourself what you are doing how you are so - I'll not read it to the others

I suppose I ought
not to work as hard as
I do - at times - I can't help
it. Haugh. I finished
making Friday - I hope
I shall not be as late
again. - There will be no rest
before spring work - I have
three hundred bushels corn to
haul to town eight or ten
loads of wood to cut +
haul from home &c. I'll
rest another week to make
up. I am reading "Nature's
Serial Story" by "E. P. Roe"
in Harpers Monthly - according
to that - Chicken Hawks are
a blessing - rather than
an injury to farmers. I
suppose every thing was
made for some good purpose
though it is hard to see it at times.

I read of a man
that would not have a
snake killed upon his farm
for they ate so many worms
+ insects that were injurious
to Crops. Mother says tell them
we enjoy our new home very
much - + wishes you all
could visit us here - A
mist I heartily endorse -
Affectionately Yours
Will.

P.S. If budley has any of
early rose potatoes - similar
to those I got of him the
last year I was on the Dodge
place I wish he would
send me a peck by Express
stating price + I will remit.
I can't get any as good
here. and oblige
William

Mr. Leslie Watson
Lycamore



Miss F. C. Flier.
De Kalb.
Ills.

Mr Watson

My brother
Dudley wishes me to
ask if you will
please excuse his
lesson this week
as some interruptions
and extra work
make it impossible
for him to get it.
Heopes to be prepared
next week

Respectfully

Wm. C. Thim

